(c) whether it is also a fact that ONGC has agreed to pay the same fee at which RIL had hired *i.e.* $ 5,50,000 per day excluding support services at the time when the demand for rigs was sky rocketing because of high oil prices;

(d) if so, the details thereof; and

(e) the reasons for hiring rigs without calling tenders at such a high price?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PETROLEUM AND NATURAL GAS (SHRI JITIN PRASADA): (a) to (e) Oil and Natural Gas Corporation (ONGC) charter hired newly constructed ultra deep water drilling rig named DDKG 1 from M/s. Reliance Industries Limited (RIL) for a period of 4 years on rig-assignment-basis at the same rates, terms and conditions of the contract as hired by M/s. RIL from M/s. Deepwater Pacific 1 Inc, British Virgin Islands. The contract for DDKG 1 is between RIL and Deep Water Pacific Inc for 5 years.

The contract operating day rate for the rig is US$ 4,95,000 for the first 180 days and US$ 5,10,000 for 181st day onwards excluding support services. The assignment contract does not involve any extra mark-up payment to RIL.

Import of LNG

2883. SHRI TAPAN KUMAR SEN: Will the Minister of PETROLEUM AND NATURAL GAS be pleased to state:

(a) the total quantity of natural gas now being produced indigenously along with the details of the manufacturers and consumers thereof; and

(b) the quantity of gas being imported as Liquefied Natural Gas (LNG) since 2005 and the details of the consumers thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PETROLEUM AND NATURAL GAS (SHRI JITIN PRASADA): (a) 131.68 million metric standard cubic metres per day (mmscmd) of natural gas is being produced indigenously. Details of the same are as follows:-

	(in mmscmd)
ONGC	64.55
Oil India Ltd.	7.03
Private/JVs	60.10
TOTAL	131.68

(b) A total of 28.89 million metric tonnes LNG has been imported since 2005-06. The said LNG has been consumed by customers in various sectors including *inter- alia* power, fertilizers, sponge iron and city gas distribution.

Terror threats to ONGC platforms

2884. SHRI PRAKASH JAVADEKAR: Will the Minister of PETROLEUM AND NATURAL GAS be pleased to state: